

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 3726

Application No. 10/519,273

Paper Dated: September 16, 2009

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of April 16, 2009

Attorney Docket No. 0470-048023

REMARKS

The final Office Action of April 16, 2009 has been reviewed and the Examiner's comments carefully considered. Claims 24, 25, 27, 28, 30-35, 46, 48, and 49 have been amended, claim 23 has been cancelled, and new claim 51 has been presented by way of this Amendment. Accordingly, claims 24-28, 30-35, 46-49, and 51 are currently pending in this application, with claim 51 being in independent form, claims 1-22, 29, 36-45, and 50 having been previously cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by way of this Amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 23-28, 30-35, and 46-49 appear to define over the prior art of record and would be allowable but for certain rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. These rejections are addressed by this Amendment.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph:

Claims 23-28, 30-35, and 46-49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for being unclear due to various informalities. Further, the Examiner suggests that independent claim 23 be rewritten to first recite the steps required to form the cavities and then recites the steps for coupling the concrete parts together and differentiate between the concrete parts.

Claim 23 has been cancelled and rewritten as new claim 51 to address the informalities noted by the Examiner. The antecedent basis errors noted by the Examiner have been corrected. The subject matter, as to the cavities matching with the reinforcing bars, has been corrected to clarify that the reinforcing bars are receivable within the cavities. The subject matter, as to the tensile force applied to the body in the vicinity of a boundary surface, has been corrected to clarify that a tensile force is applied to the bodies at an outer wall of the first

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concrete part. Also, the subject matter of the claim has been clarified to set forth the steps of the claimed method as suggested by the Examiner and to more clearly differentiate between the two concrete parts.

Claims 25, 30 and 31 have been amended to replace “said metal part” with “said metal reinforcing bars” so as to be consistent with claim 51.

Claim 32 has been amended to replace “said elastomer body” with “said elastomer material” so as to be consistent with claim 51.

Claim 35 has been amended to clarify that the coupled parts include a series of metal reinforcing bars in the first concrete part, which are connected by the second concrete part.

Claim 46 is dependent upon claim 51, which provides antecedent basis for the limitation as to “one of said cavities.”

Claim 48 has been amended to replace “the concrete body” with “the concrete material” so as to be consistent with claim 51.

Claim 49 has been amended to replace “an elastomer coating” to “the elastomer material” so as to be consistent with claim 51.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

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Conclusion:

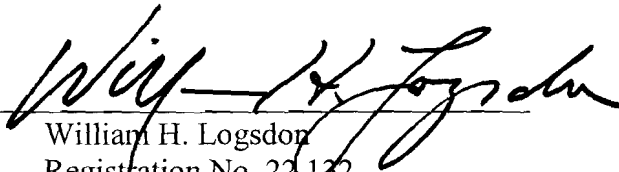
Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendments to the claims are made solely to address the informalities under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, noted by the Examiner in order to place the current application in clear condition for allowance. Entry and consideration of this Amendment After Final Rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of claims 24-28, 30-35, 46-49, and 51 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By



William H. Logsdon

Registration No. 22132

Attorney for Applicant

436 Seventh Avenue

700 Koppers Building

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Telephone: (412) 471-8815

Facsimile: (412) 471-4094

E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com